1 Amendments to the Claims:

2 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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4 Listing of Claims:

- 5 1. (currently amended) A method of authenticating a host to receive content from a storage 6 engine, device, the method comprising: 7 receiving at the storage engine a certificate from the host device, the certificate 8 including a plurality of fields, including a field holding a digital signature 9 from a certifying authority; verifying the digital signatures in the certificate, the verifying including at least one 10 of: 11 12 verifying the certifying authority digital signature using the certifying authority public key; and 13 14 verifying a device host digital signature using a host device public key; and receiving validation data from a source, the validation data identifying one or more 15 16 data in the certificate as valid or invalid according to predetermined criteria; 17 and 18 if the digital signatures are verified and validated, generating a random number at the storage engine and encrypting the random number with a public key extracted 19 20 from the certificate to form a session key and transmitting a the session key to the device host; 21 22 at the host, receiving an encrypted content key from the storage engine; and decrypting the encrypted content key using the session key to recover the content key 23 to establish a secure communication channel. 24
- 1 2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the source is one of a portable medium and
- 2 firmware.
- 1 3. (cancelled)
- 1 4. (cancelled)

- 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the certifying of the host device
- 2 includes certifying a second host for a host to second host secure communication channel, the
- 3 certifying allowing a copy function between the host and the second host.
- 6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the data in the certificate specifies one
- 2 or more of a product category, a product line, a model, a revision and a serial number of the
- 3 device host.
- 1 7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the source validation data is compared
- 2 with the data in the certificate to identify as invalid one or more of the product category, the
- 3 product line, the model, the revision and the serial number of the device host.
- 1 8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the certificate includes one or more of
- 2 a certifying authority identifier field, a version field, a sign key identifier field, an exposed
- 3 methods field, a company field, a model identifier field, a revision field, a metadata identifier
- 4 field, a device digital signature key field, a certifying authority digital signature field, a serial
- 5 number field, a protocol public key field and a device digital signature field, wherein the
- 6 certifying authority digital signature verifies one or more of the fields in the certificate and
- 7 the device host digital signature verifies one or more of the fields in the certificate.
- 9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the certificate enables an entity
- 2 receiving the certificate to control the quality of the device host by invalidating devices hosts
- 3 that are false or have latent defects.
- 1 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the certificate further includes fields
- 2 provided by a device host manufacturer, including the company public key, wherein the
- 3 company public key is digitally signed by the certifying authority.
- 1 11. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the certificate further includes fields
- 2 provided by a device host manufacturer, the fields including the device host public key,
- 3 wherein the device host public key is digitally signed by the company.

- 1 12. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein one or more of the product category,
- 2 the product line, the model, the revision and the serial number of the device host are provided
- 3 to a certificate creator after the device host passes a qualification procedure.
- 1 13. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the certificate specifies one or more certificate
- 2 classes, the certificate classes providing a set of methods that may be exposed after the
- 3 transmitting the session key.
- 1 14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the set of methods includes digital
- 2 rights management (DRM) methods include one or more of a copy method, a record method,
- 3 a play method, a read secure metadata method, a write secure metadata method, and an
- 4 unlock method, the DRM methods operable according to a type of the device host.
- 1 15. (cancelled)

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- 1 16. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein each of the fields hold 326-bit values for 163-
- 2 bit elliptic curve cryptography.
- 1 17. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the certifying authority public key is referenced
- 2 by a field of the certificate.
- 1 18. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the certifying authority public key is
- 2 in a the firmware component.
- 1 19. (cancelled)
- 20. (currently amended) An A storage engine configured to certify a host, the engine
- 2 comprising:
- a firmware component including:
- 4 a block configured to receive a certificate from the host, the certificate
- 5 including a plurality of fields, including a field holding a protocol public key;

6	;	a block configured to verify one or more digital signatures in the certificate,
7	:	including at least one of:
8		a certifying authority digital signature using a certifying authority
9	:	public key; and
10		a device digital signature using a device public key in the certificate;
11	:	and
12		a block configured to receive validation data from a source, the validation data
13		identifying one or more data in the certificate as valid or invalid according to
14		predetermined criteria; and
15		a block configured to transmit a session key to the host to establish a secure
16	commu	nication channel when the digital signatures are verified and validated; and
١7		a block to transmit an encrypted content key to the host, wherein the host is
18	enabled	to recover a content key from the encrypted content key by using the session
19	<u>key</u> .	
20		
21		
יי	Claims 21-23	(cancelled)